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## Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes, April 16, 2018

Utah State University

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## **FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

April 16, 2018

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Old Main-Champ Hall

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- Present:** Kimberly Lott (President), Vince Wickwar (Past President), Rebecca Lawver (President Elect), President Noelle Cockett (Ex-Officio), Interim Provost Larry Smith (Ex-Officio), Michele Hillard (Exec. Sec.), Arthur Caplan, Zsolt Ugray, Juan Villalba, Carol Kochan for Pamela Martin, Dennis Garner, Scott Henrie, Robert Wagner, Timothy Taylor, David Brown,
- Absent:** Nancy Hills for Matt Omasta, Rick Heflebower, Donna Gilbertson, Lisa Gabbert,
- Guests:** Edward Reeve, Interim Vice Provost, Neal Legler, Director, Travis Thurston, Senior Instructional Designer, Michael Lyons, AFT Chair, Rebecca Blais, CoC Chair, Andi McCabe, Assistant Provost, Krystin Deschamps, Director, Richard Inouye, Associate Dean
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### **Call to Order - Kimberly Lott**

Approval of March 19, 2018 Minutes

*Minutes approved as amended.*

*Add to first sentence at new business to include President Cockett and differential tuition for next faculty senate meeting. No other changes.*

### **University Business - Noelle Cockett, President | Larry Smith, Interim Provost**

Matt White is currently looking at realigning positions in Advancement. The position for Associate Vice President for Stewardship has been posted and applications have been received. The position of Alumni Director has been posted and the search will continue through the summer. Vice President White is doing a great job in realigning and repositioning the group.

There is a new posting for a Vice President for Communications. This position would elevate communications, marketing and media to the Vice President level. Matt White will serve as the chair for the search and Tim Vitale will be the search manager. This will be an external search and it is a new area for higher education. The university is looking for someone with experience in higher education and skills in communication, media relations and marketing.

Three candidates came for campus interviews for the Dean of Engineering search. Maura Hagan is chairing the search and Ed Reeve is the search manager. Comments from everyone who met with candidate have been solicited and Larry Smith, Maura Hagan and President Cockett are reviewing and will determine whom to hire.

Four candidates came for campus interviews for the position of Executive Vice President and Provost. A final decision will be made this week. A university announcement and press release will be coming out soon.

The Title IX office is being realigned and Stacy Sturgeon will be stepping down. Scott Bodily will serve as the Interim Title IX Coordinator and Dale Anderson, who is part of the university counsel, will serve as the Interim Director of the AAEO office. A search has been started for the Title IX Coordinator. Both positions will come under the Provost's office. The Title IX Coordinator needs to be filled first and we anticipate the recommendation to increase the size of the Title IX AAEO office.

The President has been meeting with various groups of students. Among them were the Sigma Chi and Alpha Chi fraternity/sorority. Also met with an anti-racist group that has been organized under the direction of the access and diversity group. Tonight President Cockett will be meeting with interfaith groups. All of these efforts have brought forward the discussion of a task force. We had a task force on sexual assault and that is winding down. We started a mental health task force and now we should start one regarding inclusion, respect and equity. How do staff and students feel about the climate for inclusion on camps and how can we do things better?

Two weeks ago, the President spent time in Blanding and Price and had meetings with constituents and faculty. It was a very productive and open conversation. Chancellor Joe Peterson is retiring effective July 1 and this provides us with an opportunity to look at the structure of the Price and Blanding campuses. Faculty staff and students want resolution regarding their mascot and campus names. We will be making more of an official announcement later on and it is anticipated that the change will not be controversial. We may need these changes to be included in the legislative process. In 2010, there was part of the higher education statute that moved CEU to USU as well as the chancellor that oversees USU Eastern and Blanding. Reporting structure and names would require the statute to change.

Conference for regional campus faculty. Workshops dealing with unique teaching and learning environments that they work in. Over 100 people attending – that is the vast majority of the faculty. P&T reception on April 25.

## **Information**

### **Empowering Teaching Excellence (ETE) - Neal Legler | Travis Thurston**

This is a program specifically for helping faculty become effective teachers. ETE is magnifying a culture that already exists and extending the culture through five key efforts. The faculty committee consists of representatives from each academic college as well as representatives from regional campuses. They seek to create events and programs that provide venues for sharing and renewal, recognition of improvement efforts, quality feedback and mentorship, innovation support, and it is faculty driven. ETE collaborates with the colleges and other groups in providing these resources. The annual ETE conference is held annually during retreat week. All sessions are faculty focused and last year there were 350 attendees.

### **Student Code Revision - Krystin Deschamps**

Over that last year and a half, they have been working on revising the student conduct code. Last week student code passed through the USUSA student counsel and executive committee and is now going to Faculty Senate and then to the Board of Trustees. They are choosing #700 as the policy number for student code. Working with the university policy task force to see when reviews and updates could/should be done. Big changes made to the Academic integrity policy. Before the change, there was a long process and the student could protest up to the Provost. They now have an abbreviated process so that it goes to the department head and academic dean and then if the student wants to appeal they can go to the Academic Standards committee. Clarified the grievance policies and where they should go when they have grievances. The process has been streamlined, the students have carefully reviewed, and they are pleased with it. The sexual misconduct section will be moved to the university policy once it is approved.

### **EPC Voting Clarification - Becki Lawver**

Received an email two weeks ago about the EPC reports. Up until about 3-4 years ago, annual reports were under the consent agenda. These were inadvertently moved under reports. These are more information items rather than reports that need to be voted upon. Policy recommendations and major actions will always be approved or disapproved. Who decides what a major action is? Faculty Senate needs to have an opportunity to weigh in on the EPC report and discuss any issues or concerns they may have. FSEC needs to decide what the major action items may need to be discussed. Will be clarifying the policy this summer so that it is clearer and easier for the senators to understand. No rights will be

taken away from the senate. Look at adding a consent agenda back into the agenda. This seemed to disappear during 2013-2014 academic year.

#### **EPC April Report - Edward Reeve**

General Education approved nine designations.

Academic Standards approved the Registered Student policy.

Curriculum subcommittee approved 168 course requests. Approved four R401 requests.

#### **Policy 403 and 407 Revision Schedule - Kimberly Lott**

Last Friday President Cockett had a press conference regarding policy 403 and 407. Policy 403 is related to academic standards and professional responsibilities; and policy 407 deals with due process, sanctioning, etc. It was announced that those policies would be revised. Over the summer, Kimberly Lott and Larry Smith will meet to discuss specific areas where the policies need to be changed. This information will be presented at the first FSEC meeting for the 2018-2019 academic year. Policy changes do not change overnight, so the process will be officially starting during the August meeting.

### **Reports**

#### **Academic Freedom and Tenure (AFT) Annual Report - Michael Lyons**

Approximately a year ago, they worked on sanctions of a faculty member. The faculty member asked for action to be taken, however, later decided to not move forward with it. John Stevens was the chair of the committee who dealt with this issue. No more details due to confidentiality.

As a result, it is believed that policy sections 403 and 407 need to be reviewed and reworded to smooth the language and remove some of the concerns.

#### **Committee on Committees (CoC) Annual Report - Rebecca Blais**

Committees are being filled and should be up and running for the 2018-2019 academic year. Having a difficult time getting senators to volunteer to serve on the committees.

#### **Calendar Committee Annual Report - Andi McCabe**

Two action items. First item approved was approved through the senate and the President's Executive Committee and is the discontinuation of classes held on different days. This process was confusing and there did not seem to be a need. Second was matching the number of instruction days in the spring to those in fall. Proposing to match the number of instruction days in the spring to 70 days like in the fall. This does give an even Monday-Wednesday-Friday as well as the Tuesday-Thursday schedule. The spring semester will end on Tuesday. Proposing interim day Wednesday and finals will begin on Thursday. This provides five full days of testing and the students really like this idea. They also like having a four-day weekend before the summer session starts. This also helps to get students on internships easier and quicker. The change will take effect in the spring of 2019. There will be no new academic calendars. The testing center is open on Saturdays and final exams can be administered that day if the faculty member gives permission. The testing center will follow whatever the policy is. This is exactly the same schedule as the University of Utah.

*Motion to move reports to Faculty Senate agenda made by Arthur Caplan. Seconded by Vince Wickwar. Motion passed.*

### **Old Business**

#### **Koch Task Force Update - Kimberly Lott**

As mentioned at the March meeting we are attempting to keep this focused on the USU gift. One suggestion was to have one member of each college. Took recommendations, went through every single college. Called individuals and invited them to assist on the task force. Pointed out the fact that the individuals needed to be objective whether they have political opinions or not. The committee members have been contacted. Send out doodle

poll to get a meeting scheduled before the summer. Outlined thoughts about what the task force should/could be doing. The members are Becki Lawver, Chair, Alison Cook, Amy Odum, Mark Brunson, Robert Mueller, Jim Cangelosi and Robert Parson.

#### **New Business**

##### **Code Change - Becki Lawver**

Proposing new code. Forgot to take nominations last senate meeting for President Elect. Brought to the attention by one of the faculty senate members. Need to set up a nominating committee for them to be in charge of getting nominations. Policy 402.12.11 talks about nominating committees. The service on this committee would be a one-year commitment. This also could be moved back to the March meeting since most of the work would be done prior to the last meeting. Provide more of a process. This would not be in effect until the middle of the next academic year.

*Motion to move to Faculty Senate agenda made by David Brown. Seconded by Juan Villalba. Moved to agenda.*

##### **Election of Faculty Senate President-Elect - Kimberly Lott**

Faculty Senate presidency email went out requesting nominations for Faculty Senate President-Elect. Contacting people and providing them the information regarding the position. At the April 30 meeting, nominations will be brought forward for the election.

**Adjourn 4:20 pm**